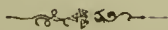


PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.



Annual Report

ON THE **HEALTH** OF THE

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF THE

BOROUGH OF BACUP,

DURING **1904**.

BY **JOHN BROWN**, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., VICT.

Medial Officer of Health.

PRESENTED JANUARY, 1905.

BACUP:

SHEPHERD, SWIRE & MARKHAM, ROSSENDALE PRINTING WORKS.

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Consists of the following Members:

Chairman—THE MAYOR (MR. ALDERMAN MADEN, J.P.)

Vice-Chairman—MR. COUNCILLOR HOWORTH.

- „ ALDERMAN LAW.
- „ COUNCILLOR J. BRIERLEY.
- „ COUNCILLOR CRABTREE.
- „ COUNCILLOR CROPPER.
- „ COUNCILLOR GREAVES.
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- „ COUNCILLOR HARGREAVES.
- „ COUNCILLOR HEYS.
- „ COUNCILLOR E. LORD.
- „ COUNCILLOR OGDEN.
- „ COUNCILLOR SMITH.
- „ COUNCILLOR WORSWICK.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1904.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors
of the Borough of Bacup.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting you with my Annual Report on the sanitary condition and vital statistics of the Borough of Bacup for the year 1904.

The area of the Borough is 6,400 acres. The area covered by water (if we exclude the course of the river Irwell) is so small that it may be ignored. The area of the two reservoirs is 9 acres. The area of the reservoirs and lodges of the various mills cannot be much.

The population at the census for 1901 was 22,505; inhabited houses, 5,284; the average number of persons per house being 4·2. In 1891 the average per house was 4·4 persons.

I have estimated the population in the middle of 1904 to have been 22,500.

BIRTHS.

During 1904 there were 509—males 249, females 260—which is at the rate of 22·19 per 100. There were 28 illegitimate births—males 13, females 15. The birth-rate for England and Wales for 1904 was 27·9 per 1000. The ~~national~~ increase in the Borough due to excess of births over deaths was 128 for the year.

DEATHS.

There were 381 deaths registered—males 179, females 202, which is at the rate of 16·61 per 1000. The death-rate for England and Wales for 1904 was 16·2 per 1000.

The following table gives the number of births and deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year	Population estimated to the middle of each year	BIRTHS		TOTAL DEATHS			
		Number	Rate per 1000	UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE		AT ALL AGES	
				Numb'r	Rate per 1000 Births Regist'r'd	Numb'r	Rate per 1000
1894	23,500	581	24.72	71	122	409	17.40
1895	23,500	543	23.02	90	165	451	19.19
1896	23,500	596	25.36	126	211	451	19.19
1897	23,500	542	23.00	100	184	466	19.40
1898	24,400	589	24.13	72	121	422	17.36
1899	24,400	543	22.68	89	163	398	16.62
1900	24,400	589	24.13	100	169	472	19.34
1901	22,500	485	21.11	69	142	364	16.18
1902	22,500	560	24.88	76	135	369	16.40
1903	22,500	552	24.52	77	139	439	19.5
Average for Years 1894 to 1904.	23,400	558	23.75	87	155	424	18.05
1904	22,500	509	22.19	74	145	381	16.61

The following table gives the mortality for all causes at the subjoined ages :—

Deaths under 1 year	74	} Total under 5 years, 122
„ above 1 year and under 5 years	48			
„ „ 5 „ „ 15 „	18			} over 5 years, 259
„ „ 15 „ „ 25 „	9			
„ „ 25 „ „ 65 „	140			
„ „ 65 years and upwards	92			
Total	...		381	

CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES.

Measles 6, Scarlet Fever 1, Whooping Cough 24, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup 2, Croup 1, Typhoid Fever 3, Influenza 6, Diarrhoea 4, Enteritis 11, Phthisis 16, Other Tubercular Diseases 7, Cancer and Malignant Diseases 16, Bronchitis 59, Pneumonia 17, Other Respiratory Diseases 5, Diseases and Accidents of Parturition 4, Heart Disease 29, Accidents 6, Suicides 2, Premature Birth 6, all other causes 160.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

There were 40 deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, as follows :—Measles 6, Scarlet Fever 1, Whooping Cough 24, Diphtheria 2, Typhoid Fever 3, Diarrhoea 4. The Zymotic death-rate is 1·77 per 1000. The Zymotic death-rate for England and Wales for 1904 is 1·94 per 1000.

The following table gives the Zymotic deaths and Zymotic death-rate per 1000 for the past 10 years :—

Year	Zymotic Deaths		Zymotic Death-rate
1895	...	16	0·68 per 1000.
1896	...	28	1·19 "
1897	...	51	2·93 "
1898	...	24	0·98 "
1899	...	42	1·72 "
1900	...	55	2·25 "
1901	...	24	1·06 "
1902	...	17	0·75 "
1903	...	53	2·35 "
1904	...	40	1·74 "

The following table gives the cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the past 5 years under the Notification Act :—

Year	Smallpox.	Diphtheria and Membranous Group	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid Fever	Puerperal Fever	Total
1900	0	9	23	395	14	3	444
1901	0	6	14	82	9	0	111
1902	0	3	15	87	5	5	115
1903	43	7	5	115	16	1	187
1904	4	3	6	38	6	6	63*

*Chickenpox having been made a Notifiable Disease, of which 103 cases were notified, makes a total of 166 cases for 1904.

The following table gives the Monthly Returns of Infectious Diseases notified for the year 1904:—

Month	Smallpox	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid Fever	Puerperal Fever	Chickenpox	Total
January ...	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
February ...	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	5
March ...	0	1	0	1	0	0	21	23
April ...	0	1	1	5	2	0	39	48
May ...	0	0	0	1	0	1	19	21
June ...	0	0	0	0	1	1	14	16
July ...	0	0	1	5	0	1	2	9
August ...	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	5
September ...	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
October ...	0	1	0	9	0	2	3	15
November ...	4	0	1	6	1	1	0	13
December ...	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	5
Total ...	4	3	6	38	6	6	103	166

SMALLPOX.

The Borough was free from Smallpox for over a year. On November 6 there was one case notified, and two days later three others, making four cases. In the previous year there were 43 cases. The patients were removed at once to Sourhall Isolation Hospital, and all recovered. Three were *variola discrete* and one *variola confluens*. The source of the first was uncertain; very probably the disease was contracted from an undiagnosed case in one of the towns which the person had to visit in his occupation, where the disease existed. In regard to the three others, two occurred in a house where an adult case of Chickenpox died. The third was a person living next door, who laid out the corpse.

Prompt action was taken to stamp out the disease. The most efficient method is speedy vaccination of all contacts. In this we were very fortunate; not a single case occurred. The inmates of the houses were removed to the Reception House, whilst their homes were thoroughly disinfected and fumigated, walls stripped of paper and sprayed with corrosive sublimate solution. Bedding and clothing were disinfected at Sourhall by means of Thresh's steam disinfector.

The common lodging-houses have been under special observation. Every day the Chief Constable has had a report from each lodging-house proprietor, whence the lodgers came and their destination. In nearly all former outbreaks we have traced some of the cases to the tramp population. This year, however, is an exception. In my opinion, in times of epidemic Smallpox, sanitary authorities ought to have the power to vaccinate all tramps who have been contacts, if not efficiently vaccinated within seven years.

RE-VACCINATION, if it were made compulsory on all children before leaving school, would prove one of the most effective measures for stamping out the disease. In my experience of over 27 years, I have never seen a case of Smallpox in a person who had been successfully re-vaccinated within a period of seven years. In the 47 cases which occurred in 1903 and 1904, only one was a person who had been re-vaccinated. This was done 30 years ago, and it was a mild case. Scientific medicine, based on practical experience, proves that in regard at least to Smallpox, we have in Vaccination the only certain preventive measures for stamping out one of the most infectious and loathsome diseases.

The epidemics of Smallpox which have been so general in Lancashire, Yorkshire, and some other parts of this country are having an *educational value* on the public mind which will hasten legislation; so that this disease will never again have a foothold in this country. It is over 14 years since Lancashire had a year free from Smallpox. During the last three years there have been several severe outbreaks.

VACCINATION.

Through the kindness of Mr. A. A. Whitehead, Vaccination Officer, I am able to give the following statistics in regard to Vaccination in the Borough:—

Year	Successful Vaccinations	Exemption Certificates	Births	Deaths under 1 Year
1897	285	—	542	100
1898	335	195	589	72
1899	364	114	543	89
1900	314	96	589	100
1901	364	89	485	69
1902	452	51	560	76
1903	494	59	548	77
1904	383	68	509	74

CHICKENPOX.

In July, 1903, we made Chickenpox a notifiable disease. Our experience, like that of many other towns, proved that some cases of supposed Chickenpox (especially in adults) were modified Smallpox. We have kept the disease notifiable for 17 months. In every epidemic of Smallpox, almost without exception, there are cases of Chickenpox. It is therefore a wise precaution to make Chickenpox notifiable. It has proved of great service to us, and has undoubtedly enabled us to trace the source of cases of Smallpox to undiagnosed cases, and to stamp out the disease. "Adult Chickenpox" is very likely to be modified Smallpox, and all precautions should be taken in such cases. During 1904 we had a severe epidemic of Chickenpox; no less than 103 cases were notified, one person aged 48 died, 99 were children under 10 years of age, only 4 were adults, ages 28, 28, 38, and 48 years. In a neighbouring Borough it was reported that there were 23 cases of Smallpox, which could be distinctly traced a case of supposed "Adult Chickenpox," also that there were good reasons to believe that there were nine others.

In my opinion, three cases were modified Smallpox. The fourth was not so clear. In all cases the patients were isolated in their homes, vaccinations carried out where possible, houses disinfected. In three cases, persons who had been "contacts" were not vaccinated; the result was, that these developed Smallpox, one a severe type.

Chickenpox was spread to some extent through children being sent to the Day Schools with the eruption on them. In some schools that were visited children were found with the eruption out. Of course these were sent home. Of the 99 children, 13 were unvaccinated.

SCARLET FEVER.

During the year there were 38 cases notified against 115 in the previous year. Scarlet Fever was notified for each month in the year. Since the Notification Act came into force in 1900 there has been only one month in which no cases of Scarlet Fever was notified. The case mortality was 2.63 per cent. of those notified. There was only one death registered, which was under 5 years of age. The death-rate was 0.04 per 1000.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year		Deaths		Rates per 1000
1895	...	2	...	0·08
1896	...	2	...	0·08
1897	...	7	...	0·29
1898	...	1	...	0·04
1899	...	9	...	0·40
1900	...	22	...	0·90
1901	...	3	...	0·13
1902	...	3	...	0·13
1903	...	7	...	0·31
1904	...	1	...	0·04

Scarlet Fever was of a mild type. It was sporadic in character, and not confined to any particular part of the Borough. In a few cases the disease seems to have been contracted from Scarlet Fever, which had occurred many months previously in the same house. In one instance it was probably four or five years ago. The germs of Scarlet Fever are difficult to destroy and retain their vitality for years. One case was very interesting. Five years ago a case of Scarlet Fever occurred in a house, the tenant shortly after removing into a house next door, with the same furniture. On leaving in a year's time, the same furniture was left for the next tenant, who stayed three years, during which time one of his children contracted the disease, at the end of his three years' tenancy. Another tenant came, who used the same furniture. After being in the house for a few weeks one of his children was taken ill with Scarlet Fever, it being the only case in the Borough at the time. Just before this boy began to be ill, a quantity of useless things were removed to be destroyed. It seems probable that the latent disease germs had been disturbed. In each of the two previous cases the ordinary methods of disinfection were carried out. In the last case, special and thorough disinfection of all the floors, stripping of the walls, washing all the furniture, &c., and fumigation were adopted. This was done last March, and no other case has occurred.

Mild cases are often overlooked. These are the greatest danger to the public health. In one family there were three cases, which were probably due to a child who was sent to the Day School with so mild an attack that it was not recognised at the time, nor was medical treatment required.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

Three cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year : two died, both under 5 years of age. The case mortality is high, being 66·6 per cent. of those notified. The death-rate, however, for the whole population is low, being 0·08 per 1000. In one case, which proved fatal, the disease was contracted outside the Borough. We have never had any serious epidemic of Diphtheria. It is also a remarkable fact that when a case is notified, it is most exceptional for any other person to contract the disease. During the year we have had no such instance. We have comparative immunity for Diphtheria.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year	Deaths	Rate per 1000
1895	3	0·12
1896	7	0·29
1897	5	0·21
1898	2	0·08
1899	2	0·08
1900	3	0·12
1901	1	0·04
1902	1	0·04
1903	6	0·26
1904	2	0·08

MEASLES.

There were 6 deaths registered, all under 5 years of age. The death-rate equals 0·26 per 1000. In 1903 there were 30 deaths. The disease comes in cycles, sometimes 2 years, 3 years, and occasionally 4 years. Many children have second attacks. As the disease is looked upon as a trifling one, and that all children have to suffer, little or nothing is done by parents to prevent its spread. As a rule the epidemic exhausts itself by attacking all who are susceptible.

INFANT SCHOOLS OFTEN A SOURCE OF INFECTION
—It is well known that in times of epidemics of Measles, Scarlet Fever, Chickenpox, and Diphtheria that Infant Schools become a centre for the spread of epidemic diseases, which attack young children. It is a very questionable advantage, educationally considered, if children would not really learn better if sent to school not earlier than five years of age. Children under five years of age, who cannot be properly looked after at home, could be more cheaply cared for in Public Crèches. The tendency of the age is to develop the brain too early in life, at the expense of the physical development.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year	Deaths	Rate per 1000
1895 ...	1	0·04
1896 ...	1	0·04
1897 ...	37	1·57
1898 ...	1	0·04
1899 ...	10	0·40
1900 ...	9	0·36
1901 ...	5	0·22
1902 ...	5	0·22
1903 ...	30	1·33
1904 ...	6	0·26

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Twenty-four deaths were registered from Whooping Cough, all under 5 years of age. The death-rate equals 1·04 per 1000. Fourteen of the deaths were under 1 year. This disease, among the zymotic class, was the cause of the largest number of deaths in children. The mortality is the heaviest that I can find any record of. In 1896 there were 12 deaths, and in 1900 12 deaths, but this year it is double. The disease was more or less epidemic from March until the end of the year. As in previous epidemics in Whooping Cough, there were many cases of gross carelessness in taking infants and young children suffering from the disease into houses where there were young children; also in taking them to surgeries, trams, and public places. The disease is a very serious one to infants under one year—more than one half the deaths were under 12 months old. Those who recover often suffer serious affections of the chest, which may end later on in death or weakened constitution. It is most difficult to make some parents see the importance of taking steps to prevent the spread of the disease. It would be a wise measure in a serious epidemic to make it a notifiable disease for a period of three months, so that the public might be educated to its true relation to other diseases of the zymotic class, such as Scarlet Fever, &c.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year	Deaths	Rate per 1000
1895 ...	4	0·17
1896 ...	12	0·51
1897 ...	2	0·28
1898 ...	10	0·40
1899 ...	1	0·04
1900 ...	12	0·49
1901 ...	3	0·13
1902 ...	4	0·17
1903 ...	2	0·08
1904 ...	24	1·04

TYPHOID OR ENTERIC FEVER.

There were 6 cases notified, of which 3 were fatal. This gives case mortality of 50 per cent. The death-rate for the population equals 0·13 per 1000, which is very favourable. The case mortality of 50 per cent. however, is very high. The average for England and Wales is about 17 per cent. The type of the disease must have been severe, or what is more likely, that mild forms of the disease were undiagnosed. The source of all the cases could not be traced. The common origins of polluted water and milk were absent. They were all of a sporadic character, and only one occurred in each house. The usual precautions were taken to prevent the spread of the disease, also special pails provided. We have not had any serious outbreak of Typhoid Fever for several years; the total deaths for 10 years being 31, which is an average of 3 per year.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year	Deaths	Rate per 1000
1895	2	0·08
1896	1	0·04
1897	5	0·20
1898	5	0·20
1899	4	0·16
1900	2	0·08
1901	3	0·13
1902	1	0·04
1903	5	0·22
1904	3	0·13

DIARRHŒA.

There were 4 deaths registered, 3 under 5 years of age and 1 over 5. Death-rate equals 0·17 per 1000. Under Diarrhœa are included Epidemic Enteritis, Zymotic Enteritis, or Epidemic Diarrhœa. The mortality for Diarrhœa is very low. There has been no serious outbreak of Epidemic Diarrhœa for several years.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year	Deaths	Rate per 1000
1895	4	0·17
1896	5	0·21
1897	3	0·12
1898	5	0·21
1899	15	0·61
1900	7	0·28

Year		Deaths		Rate per 1000
1901	...	9	..	0·39
1902	..	2	...	0·08
1903	...	3	...	0·13
1904	...	4	...	0·17

PUERPERAL FEVER.

There were 6 cases notified, one proved fatal. Case mortality is 16·66 per cent.

REMARKS ON OTHER DISEASES.

PHTHISIS.—There were 16 deaths registered from Phthisis, all over 5 years of age. The death-rate equals 0·69 per thousand. In the previous year there were 26 deaths. The decline in the mortality is very satisfactory. The average death-rate for the County is about 1·14 per 1000.

The infectivity of Phthisis is now admitted by everyone. The disease is probably in nearly all cases of Phthisis in adults due to inhaling the germs of the disease from expectoration of a consumptive patient. It is now the general practice to burn or disinfect all sputa. The isolation of consumptives is most important, and it is now more generally carried out than it was some years ago. The importance of fresh air and more cubic space are now recognised. The improved sanitary conditions of the homes, as well as of the factories, mills, weaving sheds, and workshops have had some influence in reducing the death-rate.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year		Deaths		Rate per 1000
1895	...	31	...	1·31
1896	...	22	...	0·93
1897	...	34	...	1·43
1898	.	23	...	1·02
1899	...	14	...	0·57
1900	..	25	...	0·90
1901	...	19	...	0·84
1902	...	27	...	1·20
1903	..	26	...	1·15
1904	...	16	...	0·69

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

These comprise Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy. There were 76 deaths registered ; of these, 26 were under 5 years and 50 over 5 years of age. The death-rate

equals 3.22 per 1000. In the previous year it was 4.08 per 1000. Diseases of the Respiratory Organs always make a heavy toll on our mortality. This year it is low, being only 19.94 per cent. of the total deaths. The prevalence of Respiratory Diseases is mainly due to our climatic conditions, the cold and damp atmosphere and clay soil, high elevation; also the nature of the employment of so many people in the cotton mills, of which the inside atmosphere is so much warmer than the outside strongly predisposing to chills, &c.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year		Deaths		Rate per 1000
1895	...	101	...	4.25
1896	...	111	...	4.72
1897	...	101	...	4.25
1898	...	102	...	4.25
1899	...	93	..	3.81
1900	...	115	...	4.61
1901	...	76	...	3.37
1902	...	86	...	3.82
1903	...	92	...	4.08
1904	...	76	...	3.22

INFLUENZA.

Six deaths were registered from Influenza, all adults. The death-rate equals 0.26 per 1000. During the first three months there were a few cases. In January, February, and March there was one death for each month. Towards the end of November and all through December there was an epidemic of Influenza of a mild type. Only two deaths were registered for December.

The following table gives the deaths for the past 10 years :—

Year		Deaths		Rate per 1000
1895	...	8	...	0.34
1896	...	2	...	0.08
1897	...	4	...	0.17
1898	...	5	...	0.21
1899	...	17	...	0.69
1900	...	12	...	0.49
1901	...	2	...	0.08
1902	...	2	...	0.08
1903	...	2	...	0.08
1904	...	6	...	0.26

CANCER AND MALIGNANT DISEASE.

Sixteen deaths were registered, which equals a death-rate of 0.69 per 1000. This is an increase on the previous year, when there were 12 deaths. This terrible disease has continued to steadily increase in all the civilised countries of the world. In England and Wales the number of deaths per million in 1864 was 385; in 1894 it had increased to 713 per million. The predisposing causes are well known to be associated with senile degeneration and long continued irritation. In men, the parts specially liable to the disease are the stomach, gullet, and intestines, especially at the orifices; in women, the breast and womb. It is most important that any suspicious growths in persons 40 years of age and upwards should be diagnosed early and at once removed. Recent advances in Surgery have proved that Cancer is curable when removed in its earliest stages. In this and other countries medical men of the highest eminence have been working for years, and are still prosecuting their investigations with a view to prevent and to cure the disease.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 74 deaths under 1 year, which equals 145 per 1000 births. In England and Wales for 1904 it was 146 per 1000 births. The Infantile mortality is higher than in the previous year; this, in my opinion, was partly due to the "cotton corner." Many families suffered great privation, the income in many cases being only about one-half the usual amount, the result being that mothers could not suckle nor clothe their children as they should do. If the heavy Infantile mortality is to be greatly reduced, it can only be done by mothers being compelled to stay at home and suckle their infants and take care of the house. There is an enormous increase in the number of bottle-fed infants. **Feeding Bottles with Rubber Tubing**—The bottle, with long rubber tube, is the one commonly used. It is almost impossible to clean the tube, so that it is really a "breeding ground" for microbes. It is a dangerous and bad form of feeding-bottle, and should only be seen in museums. We have asked our local Chemists to do what they can to discourage the sale of these "death traps." If a feeding bottle must be used, the "**boat-shaped bottle**" without tubing, is the best. As there is no tubing, it necessitates that the baby shall *be fed*, and not laid in a cradle to suck air by the hour—a practice which is most objectionable. Dr. Dean, of Burnley, recently inquired into 20 deaths of infants, and found that 19 were bottle-fed. From personal enquiries, we find that in many cases the mothers go to the

mills and other places to work in four or five weeks after confinement. Under such unnatural conditions the milk goes away and the bottle is substituted. In some cases the husband earns such low wages that the wife is almost compelled to go out to work; in others, the husband only gives such a small proportion of his earnings that it is impossible for the mother and children to be properly fed. In such cases, it should be possible for the State to step in and punish the parent who criminally neglects his duty to his family. Over one-half of the cotton operatives in Bacup are females; some are mothers with young children. Their primal duties are to be found in their own homes.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Borough of Bacup is a very hilly district. It is situated on the Western spurs of the Pennine Hills. The River Irwell takes its rise at Cliviger, just outside the Northern boundary of the Borough, and flows about five miles through its entire length. The elevation varies from 800 to 1,500 feet above the sea level. The average number of persons per acre is 3·5. The population is very sparse in the upland and moorland portions. In the Central part of Bacup and Stacksteads the population is much more dense.

The geological formation is the millstone grit, above which are thick beds of clay. The soil is cold and damp.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.—The houses are built of stone; very few of bricks. There is no lack of house accommodation, in a fairly good sanitary condition. Many houses have not more than two bedrooms. There is a scarcity of artizan dwellings with three bedrooms. This type of house is needed, and ought to let readily. A few good artizan dwellings have been built, and have let as soon as ready for occupation. Owing to the physical features of the town it was the custom to build the houses back-to-back. In some very hilly portions the houses were built into the hills, having houses one above another, the upper houses being reached by a street on the back. In recent years none of this class have been built. Every year many of these houses are improved by securing more light and ventilation, and making them into through houses.

REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.—This work is done by our own scavengers, and gives much more satisfaction than when it was done by contractors. In the larger number of houses the contents of the tubs and pails are removed weekly. Much more might be done

to lessen the bulk if all vegetable matter, paper, &c., were burnt, instead of being mixed with the ashes. The refuse is deposited on tips. Since the appointment of Mr. Barnes as Sanitary Inspector the Borough has been divided into seven cleansing districts. The work has been carried out in a satisfactory manner, and resulted in a great saving to the rates.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.—The report of the Sewering of the Borough is progressing. Full details will be dealt with by Mr. Elce, the Borough Surveyor, in his Special Report.

Two men are employed to remove the dirt from the grids in private and back streets in the central portion of the Borough. This conduces to the cleanliness of the streets and the health of the Burgesses.

WASTE-WATER CLOSETS.—These are being increased every year. This year there were 50 conversions against 77 in the previous year. The abolition of the pail closets, cesspools, and middens is satisfactory both from the financial and sanitary aspect. It has lessened the cost to some extent, which will become more manifest as the conversions progress.

PAIL CLOSETS.—We have about 2,500 pail closets. Thirteen additional pail closets have been added to the list during the year. It is most desirable to have clean water closets where the waste-water closet cannot be erected, and to encourage its adoption to give the water supply rather than have pail closets. The pails are collected weekly or as often as required.

WATER SUPPLY.—The Corporation supply about 2,400 houses, which is less than one-half of those inhabited. Every year the town's water is being substituted for private supplies. The quality is excellent, and the quantity has been satisfactory. For a short period swilling was prohibited. It is supplied on the constant principle. The water is collected from the moors, filtered through limestone, and, if necessary, through alumina-ferrie cakes, before it is filtered through sand beds. The water is hardened by the filtration, and is about 5 degrees of hardness. This seems to have prevented the plumbosolvent action of the moorland water on the lead service pipes. Cases of lead poisoning, which a few years ago were very common, are now almost unknown.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES—Some of these are liable to contamination from heavy rainfalls from surface washings. No serious sickness has occurred. Persons using this class of water take the precautions of filtering

and boiling, &c. When the new supply is ready, many of these suspicious supplies will be stopped. Much inconvenience was caused to many of the householders by the insufficient and, in several parts of the Borough, total failure of private supplies.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—We have 16 on the register. These have been kept in a fairly satisfactory condition. Two new licenses have been granted. One has been closed during the year. Some of them are in congested areas, too small and ill-adapted for the purpose.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—There are 5 on the register. Tripe boilers, 3; tallow, 1; gut scraper, 1. These have been conducted in a satisfactory manner. The Bye-Laws have been strictly enforced.

SMOKE NUISANCES.—Seven observations were taken. Three nuisances were observed. Notices were served for the abatement. In other cases, the attention of the firemen and owners was called to the amount of smoke emitted. A great improvement has been effected during the year.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL AND DISINFECTOR.—These questions have been held in abeyance. The state of the cotton trade, which is the staple industry of the Borough, has not justified the launching of any costly schemes. The cotton trade is now flourishing, and there are bright prospects that the town will be prosperous. A new cotton mill scheme has been successfully floated, and other extensions are contemplated.

SIGNAL CARDS FOR HOUSES WHERE DANGEROUS INFECTIOUS DISEASES EXISTS.—In towns where Isolation Hospitals are not provided, and patients cannot be properly isolated in the home, Infectious Diseases are readily spread. In some houses the patients are nursed in the kitchen or living room. Persons not knowing this have entered and exposed themselves to infection; in some instances, have contracted the disease. How can the public be protected? We have no power to enforce that a Signal Card be affixed to the door, stating on it the nature of the Infectious Disease existing in the house. There is a *moral* obligation to do all that is reasonable to protect the public from entering the house. In my opinion, the public health would be safeguarded to some extent if small "Signal Cards" were used in times of epidemics of Small-pox, Scarlet Fever, Measles, and Whooping Cough.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES, DAIRIES, AND MILK-SHOPS.—These are dealt with under the Chief Constable's Report, which is annexed.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

During the year a valuable amount of work has been carried out under the above Act, the following being done :—

Number of Workshops on Register	...	140
New Workshops Registered	...	6
Inspections Made	... ..	153
Workshops Measured and Cards Supplied		6
Notices Served	... ..	21
Defects Remedied	... ..	42
No Abstract of the Act in the Work-room		1

Five owners having changed their addresses, have been re-registered. Two have closed their work-rooms, and have been struck off the Register. All Nuisances found have been abated. All complaints and recommendations have received prompt attention. We have 5 work places on the Register:—Kitchens and Restaurants, 4; Livery Stable Yard, 1. These places have been visited, and found in a clean condition, no overcrowding being observed.

DOMESTIC WORKSHOPS.—There are 3 on the Register:—Dressmaking, 1; Millinery, 2. The work is carried on in the kitchen or living room of private houses. No overcrowding, and other conditions were satisfactory.

Five out-workers have been registered during the year; these persons take in work for the Slipper Factories. No Infectious Diseases have occurred at any of the Workshops or Work-places.

ICE CREAM AND FRIED FISH SHOPS have been inspected, and found in a clean condition.

INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH.—We have inspected the Borough, and have taken action to remove Nuisances and Insanitary conditions. It will be seen from the Sanitary Inspector's Report, which is annexed, that much valuable work has been done. There is very little overcrowding. In 1891 the average per house was 4.4 persons; in 1901 it was 4.2. Most of the streets are well paved, sewered, flagged, channelled, and lighted. There are some streets which need paving. Persons using them have to wade through mud and pools of water in wet weather. Some of these streets have been considered by

the Corporation, with a view to repairing them. Action has been delayed owing to certain difficulties. We trust these will be removed, and the streets put into a satisfactory condition.

THE MADEN PUBLIC BATHS.—The Baths' Manager's Report is annexed. The Slipper Baths ought to be more used than they are. Warm baths, with soap and towel, costs 2d. As the majority of the houses have no Slipper Baths, I would urge the Burgesses to avail themselves of a Slipper Bath at least once a week. It is a necessity for health and comfort, especially for mill operatives.

I am, Gentlemen, yours obediently,

JOHN BROWN, Medical Officer of Health,
M.D., D.P.H., Vict. Univ.

*Burwood House, Bacup,
January 18th, 1905.*

TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1903 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	Number	Rate	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District
	Number		Rate	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages							
				Number	Rate per 1000 Births Registered	Number	Rate						
1894	23500	581	24.72	71	122	409	17.40	..	..	..	409	17.46	
1895	23500	543	23.02	90	165	451	19.19	..	..	..	451	19.19	
1896	23500	596	25.36	126	211	451	19.19	..	..	..	451	19.19	
1897	23500	542	23.00	100	184	466	19.40	..	..	..	466	19.40	
1898	24400	589	24.13	72	121	422	17.30	..	..	..	422	17.30	
1899	24400	543	22.68	89	163	398	16.62	..	..	..	398	16.62	
1900	24000	589	24.13	100	169	472	19.34	..	..	..	472	19.34	
1901	22500	485	21.11	69	142	364	16.18	..	..	..	364	16.18	
1902	22500	560	24.88	76	135	369	16.40	..	..	..	369	16.40	
1903	22500	552	24.53	77	139	439	19.51	..	..	..	439	19.51	
Averages for Years 1894-1903	23430	558	23.75	87	155	424	18.05	..	..	..	424	18.05	
1904	22500	509	22.19	74	145	381	16.61	..	..	..	381	16.61	

TABLE II.—VITAL STATISTICS URBAN DISTRICT OF
BACUP IN 1904 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births Registered	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year
1894	23500	581	409	71
1895	23500	543	451	90
1896	23500	596	451	126
1897	23500	542	466	100
1898	24400	589	422	72
1899	24400	543	398	89
1900	24000	589	472	100
1901	22500	485	364	69
1902	22500	560	369	76
1903	22500	552	439	97
Averages of Years 1894 to 1903	23430	558	424	87
1904	22500	509	381	74

TABLE III.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1904.

Notifiable Disease				At all Ages
Smallpox	...	.	...	4
Cholera	...	...	...	—
Diphtheria	...	.	...	3
Membranous Croup	...		—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	6
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	38
Typhus Fever	...	.	...	—
Enteric Fever	.	.	...	6
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	—
Continued Fever	...	.	...	—
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	6
Plague	...	...	...	—
Varicella	..	...	...	103
				—
				166
				—

TABLE IV.
CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Deaths in or belonging to Whole District at Subjoined Ages						
	All Ages	Under 1 Year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	6	2	4	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ..	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	24	15	9	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup	2	...	2	...	...	...	...
Croup ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Enteric ...	3	...	...	...	1	2	...
{ Other continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	6	...	...	...	...	6	...
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa ...	4	3	...	...	...	1	...
Enteritis ...	11	6	...	1	...	2	2
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Septic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis ...	16	...	...	2	3	11	...
Other Tubercular Diseases	7	2	2	1	1	1	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	16	...	...	...	...	9	7
Bronchitis ...	59	11	9	1	...	19	19
Pneumonia ...	17	3	3	...	...	9	2
Pleurisy ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respira- tory Organs	5	...	2	3	...	...	...
Alcoholism ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver {	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Venereal Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	6	6	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Parturition	4	...	...	...	...	4	...
Heart Diseases	29	...	...	...	2	24	3
Accidents ...	6	1	...	1	1	2	1
Suicides ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...
Varicella ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
All other Causes	154	25	16	8	1	46	58
All Causes ...	381	74	48	18	9	140	92

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1904.

*To His Worship the Mayor (Alderman J. H. Maden,
Chairman), and Members of the Health Committee of
the Corporation of the Borough of Bacup.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to lay before you my third Annual Report on the work of the Sanitary Department.

SUMMARY OF WORK.

Visits and Re-visits to Houses...	...	...	1176
House-to-House Inspections ..	...	...	217
Notices and Letters served ...	...	...	457
Nuisances Abated ...	...	...	707
Workshop Inspections ...	...	...	153
Slaughter Houses Inspections...	...	...	145
Offensive Trades ...	...	...	25
Rooms Disinfected ...	...	...	106
" Stripped and Washed ..			7
Drains Tested (by smoke) ...	...	...	35
Complaints Received...	...	...	74
Visits to Fried Fish Shops ...	...	...	63
Visits Paid to Infected Houses	...	...	348
Patients Removed to Hospital...	...	...	4

NUISANCES ABATED.

Insufficient Closet Accommodation (Workshop			
Water Closets provided)			1
Foul Drains Cleansed ..	...	...	70
Cesspools Abolished (Water Closets provided) ...			6
" (Pail Closets provided) ...			14
Pail Closets Abolished (Water Closets provided)			13
Privy Middens Abolished (Water Closets provided)			5
" (Pail Closets provided)			6
Privy under Factory Abolished (W.C. provided)...			1

NUISANCES ABATED—continued.

Privy under Shop Abolished	...	...	1
Pigs kept in Dwelling House, so as to be a Nuisance			2
Defective Drains to Repair	...	...	11
Gable ends Damp (to Cement)	...	...	4
" " (to Provide Open Areas)	...	...	2
No "Lairage" Accommodation	...	...	2
Pigs Buried near Dwelling House and Water Supply			1
Drainage from 3 Houses Polluting Well (New Drain Laid)	...	...	1
Lavatory Waste Pipe Stopped-up	..	...	1
New Iron Drain Laid under Dwelling	..	...	1
Dilapidated Privy Doors and Frames (New Ones Fixed)	...	...	9
Defective Closet (New Tipper required)	...	...	1
Offensive Workshops to Cleanse	...	...	5
Dilapidated Slaughter House Floors (Floors repaired)			2
Slaughter House Floors Laid...	..	...	2
Defective Drains, Gullies, and 18-in. Channels Fixed			6
Dilapidated Closet Seats (New Ones Fixed)	...	...	19
Bath Waste Pipe Disconnected from Drain	...	...	3
Lavatory Waste Pipe Disconnected from Drain	...	...	3
New Pedestal Water Closets Fixed	...	...	14
Offensive Urinals to Abolish	...	...	3
Offensive Urinal to Repair	...	...	1
Dilapidated Closets to Rebuild	...	...	8
Dilapidated Sinkstones (New Ones Fixed)			12
Insufficient Closet Accommodation (Pail Closets Provided)	...	...	13
" " " " (W.C. provided)			8
Dilapidated Surface of Yards Relaid with Flags...			25
Dilapidated Privy Roofs and Walls to Repair	...	...	19
Dilapidated Ashpit Walls to Repair			11
Closet Doors Broken Off (New Doors Fixed)	...	...	24
Broken Closet Basins (taken ont)	...	...	2
Slaughter House Closed	...	...	1
Dirty Closets to Cleanse	...	...	11
" " (Factories)	...	...	7
Offensive Rubbish to Remove	...	...	11
Houses Without Ashpit Accommodation (Ash Bins provided)	...	...	6
Dirty Dwellings to Cleanse	...	...	7
Dirty Bedrooms to Cleanse	...	...	5
Slaughter Houses to Cleanse	...	...	6
Offensive Trades (Premises to Whitewash)	...	...	2
Dirty Bakehouses to Whitewash	...	...	2
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	3

NUISANCES ABATED—continued.

Offensive Deposits to Remove...	...	6
Insufficient Ashpits (Ash-bins provided)	...	28
Dilapidated Manure Pit to Repair	...	4
Defective Drains under Buildings (Drains taken out) ...	...	3
Defective Drains under Buildings (Relaid in Concrete) . . .	...	3
Dilapidated House Roofs Repaired	...	9
Dilapidated Spouting and Fall-pipes (New Ones Fixed) ...	...	15
Offensive Closets Discharging into River (Twelve New Closets provided connected to Sewers)	...	7
Ashpit under Dwelling (Ashpit closed, Ash-bin provided) ...	...	1
Gullies and Dishstones fixed to Drains	...	19
New Lavatory (Basins provided)	...	3
Disused Closets to Abolish	...	2
Risers to Closets (Seats required)	...	3
Cellar Drains Cleansed and Repaired	...	7
Rubble Drains Abolished, and Sanitary Drains Substituted ...	...	3
Dilapidated Closet Boxes (Sanitary Pails provided)	...	4
Privy Doors to Refix...	...	3
Dilapidated Ashpits Abolished (Sanitary Ash-bins provided) ...	...	10
Sinkwaste Pipe Disconnected from Drains (Gullies and 18in. Channels fixed) ...	...	104
Sinkwaste Pipes Stopped Up (Cleansed)	...	3
Foul Water Closet Drains (Cleansed)	...	9
Fall Pipes Disconnected from Drains	...	21
Premises Overcrowded	...	1
Defective Sinkwaste Pipes (Lead Trap fixed)	...	1
Stagnant Water in Cellars	...	2
Defective Sinkwaste Pipes (New Ones fixed)	...	64
Drains Re-laid	...	48

The following work was in hand at the close of the year:—

Dilapidated Closet to Take Down and Provide Water Closet ...	...	1
No Ashpit Accommodation	...	1
Offensive Urinal to Abolish, and Provide Sanitary Urinal. ...	...	1
Three Sinkpipes to Disconnect from Rubble Drain	...	3
Privy Midden to Abolish and Provide Water Closet	...	1

The foregoing particulars only represent cases where

notices have been served, and do not include Nuisances abated or prevented at the verbal request of your Inspector. One notice frequently deals with several separate Nuisances.

DRAINS TESTED (by Smoke).

<u>No. of Premises, 35.</u>	<u>No. of Defects Found</u>	<u>Work Carried Out</u>
<u>Nature of Defects</u>		
Drains Untrapped	5	Gully traps fixed
Defective Drain in Cellar ...	1	Drain taken out
Defective Drains (Open Joints)	13	New Drains laid
Broken Vent Pipe	1	New Pipe fixed
Defective Drain in Washhouse	1	Drain taken out
Sinkwaste Pipes connected direct to Drains	7	Sinkwaste pipes disconnected, gullies & channels fixed
Waste Pipes from Bath and Lavatory discharging direct into drain	2	Waste pipes disconnected, gullies and channels fixed
Defective Iron Traps	12	Iron traps removed and gullies and dishstones fixed
Vent Pipe Stopped Up	1	Pipe cleared
	43	

During the year I submitted the following Reports to the Health Committee, viz.:—

SECTION 36, "PUBLIC HEALTH ACT" (1875).

Insufficient Closets (17 Houses, 5 Closets). A house was taken down, and 8 New Pail Closets provided.

Insufficient Closets (6 Houses 1 Closet). 2 New Closets provided.

Insufficient Ashpits, 21 Houses (Large Open Ashpit. Ashpit Abolished and 12 Galvanised Iron Bins provided.

Report *re* Premises, Heighside. License Granted as Slaughter House.

Report *re* Premises, Back Commercial Street. License Granted as Slaughter House.

Report *re* Collection and Disposal of Nightsoil.

Report *re* Offensive Smells, Lee Mill.

DISEASED AND UNSOUND FOOD.

During the year 5 seizures of Diseased and Unwholesome Food were made :—

<u>No. of Seizures</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Weight</u>
1	Fish	77 lbs.
1	Beef	20 „
1	Apples	140 „
1	360 Bananas... ..	62 „
	{ 29 Tins Salmon	
	{ 37 Tins Pineapple	
	{ Sugar	112 „
1	{ Coffee	2½ „
	{ Yeast	3½ „
	{ Four doz. pkts. Custard	
	{ Powder	
Total Weight...		417 lbs.

With a view to the encouragement of the sale of wholesome food, a practice has for some time past been adopted that when retail vendors become aware that articles of food purchased of wholesale dealers are unsound and unfit for human consumption, they attend with the same at the Sanitary Inspector's Office, and if satisfied that no attempt has been made to sell the articles, I receive instructions from the owners to have the same destroyed, and a certificate is given in support of any claim upon the wholesale firm who originally sold the same. This no doubt prevents a large amount of unsound food being offered for sale. Three certificates have been granted during the year under these circumstances.

The whole of the butchers, fishmongers, fruiterers, and other tradesmen's premises have been kept under close and frequent supervision ; also, the Market has been visited twice weekly.

Proceedings were taken against a person for exposing for sale on the Market Ground unsound bananas, the owner being fined 20s. and costs.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Number on Register, 16.

The Slaughter Houses in the Borough have been periodically inspected. Some of the Slaughter Houses

are in congested areas, and structurally not suited for the purpose, otherwise the premises are kept clean, and at the time of my inspections the slaughtering was done so as to prevent, as far as the nature of the trade would allow, any effluvium nuisances. One Slaughter House has been closed during the year. Two new Licenses have been granted.

The drainage from one Slaughter House at Stacksteads is in a very defective condition. I am informed that a new sewer is going to be laid. When this is done the owners will be required to connect into it so as to abate the present Nuisance.

Forty-one permits have been granted during the year, allowing persons to slaughter the following animals on premises not licensed as Slaughter Houses, viz. :—Pigs, 62; Cows, 2; Sheep, 2; Calf, 1. I am strongly of opinion that this privilege is liable to be abused, also your Inspector cannot supervise these premises as satisfactorily as the Slaughter Houses.

The following improvements have been effected at the Slaughter Houses during the year :—

Slaughter House Ventilated ...	...	1
" " Floors Repaired ...	...	2
" " " Re-laid ...	...	2
New Drains Laid ...	...	3
Inside Walls of Slaughter Houses to		
Cement ...	...	2
Galvanised-iron Bin provided ...	...	1
Additional Light provided ...	...	1
Lairage Accommodation provided ...	...	1
Broken Fallpipe Inside Premises (New		
Fallpipe fixed) ...	..	1

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number on Register—Tripe Boilers ...	...	3
" " Tallow Melter ...	...	1
" " Gut Scraper ...	...	1
Total		<u>5</u>

The above premises have been regularly inspected, and, as far as the nature of the trade would allow, kept in a clean condition, the Bye-Laws being strictly enforced,

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

Sixty-three visits were made to these premises. The premises were clean and well fitted up. Your Inspector occasionally receives complaints from people living near these premises regarding the smells, but when sound fish and good materials are used, and considering the advantages they offer of a cheap, wholesome, nutritious food, little exception can be taken to the manner in which they are conducted.

SMOKE NUISANCES.

Seven observations, of an hour's duration, were made. In three instances Nuisances were observed. Notices have been served and an improvement effected. A still greater improvement would be effected if firemen would exercise greater care during the process of firing. The attention of the fireman and owners in four instances has been called to this matter.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

Number of Workshops on the Register...	...	140
„ New „ Registered	...	6
„ Inspections Made	...	153
„ Workshops Measured	...	6
„ Notices Served	...	21
„ Defects Remedied	...	43
„ No Abstracts posted	...	1

Five Occupiers having changed their addresses have been re-registered. Two having closed their workrooms have been marked off our Register.

Nature of Defects Found—

Workshop Roof to Repair	...	1
Dirty Bakehouses to Whitewash	...	2
Insufficient Closet Accommodation (Water Closet provided)	...	1
Insufficient Closet Accommodation (Pail Closet provided)	...	1
Defective Drain	...	1
Badly Ventilated Workshop	...	1
Dirty Workshops to Whitewash	...	5
Privies Abolished (Water Closets provided)	...	12
Insufficient Covering to Closet	...	1
Dirty Closets to Cleanse	...	6

Nature of Defects found—continued

Offensive Rubbish to Remove ...	2
Defective Sinkpipe to Disconnect from Drain ...	1
Offensive Closet inside Workshop (two Pail Closets provided) ...	1
Offensive Urinal to Cleanse ...	1
Three Offensive Cesspools to Abolish (three Pail Closets provided) ...	1
Risers to Closets (Seats Required) ...	3
Closets to Ventilate ...	3
New Fall Pipes to Fix ...	1
Closet Walls to Repair ...	1
Pail Closet under Workshop (Closet removed, Water Closet provided) ...	1

We have on our Register 5 Work Places, viz. :—

Kitchen of Restaurants ...	4
Livery Stable Yard ...	1

Three Domestic Workshops are registered, viz. :—

Dressmaker... ..	1
Milliner	2

These places have been inspected. No overcrowding was observed, and the work was carried out under satisfactory conditions.

Five Out-workers have been registered during the year, viz. :—Five persons who take in work from Slipper Factories.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, & MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885.

During the year the following improvements have been carried out :—

Defective Drain (New Drain Laid) ...	1
Dirty Cowshed to Cleanse ...	1
Defective Drains Inside Dairy (Drains taken Out)	3
Dilapidated Cowshed Floor (New Floor Laid) .	1
Dilapidated Dairy Floor (New Floor Laid) ...	1
Sewage from House polluting Well (Drain Disconnected) ...	1
Pigs Kept in Disused Dwelling House, so as to be a Nuisance ...	1
Dilapidated Manure Pit (New One Built) ...	1
New Water Pipes laid. Well cleaned and covered	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following number of Infectious Diseases were reported during the year :—

Smallpox	...	...	...	...	4
Chickenpox	..	...	...	..	103
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	.	38
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	6
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	6
Diphtheria (Mem. Group)	...	...	...	...	3
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	6
Measles	...	.	...	...	8

174

Three hundred and forty-eight visits were made to infected houses, enquiries made as to the cause or origin of the disease, instructions given with regard to the isolation of the infected persons, and disinfection of the infected articles, &c., connected with the disease. Sanitary Pails, Disinfectants, and Carbolic Oil are supplied free, and the bedding, clothes, &c., disinfected in the room with Formic Aldehyde Gas on recovery of the patient. All persons suffering from Smallpox were removed to the Isolation Hospital at Southall. In every house from where a Smallpox patient was removed, the walls were stripped and the rooms thoroughly disinfected.

In case the infected person was a child attending school, the school authorities were informed, and instructions given to keep all children from school until the Medical Attendant certified the children to be free from infection. So long as parents believe that children have to graduate through the various infantile diseases, and with this belief expose them in infected houses, the ordinary measures adopted by your Inspector are of little use. The removal of the infected persons to an isolated hospital, and the immediate disinfection of the infected rooms, bedding and clothing, are the only effective means by which the number of these diseases can be reduced. 164 rooms have been disinfected, and 90 articles disinfected in the steam disinfector.

The free supply of disinfectants in the Borough has been duly appreciated. In some instances I find that disinfectants has taken the place of cleanliness. When the occupiers' attention were called to this matter, disinfectants were not so freely used, but search was made for any offensive smell and the cause of same removed, instead of being covered up.

During the year a handbill, relating to sanitary matters, was distributed throughout the town. In several instances which have come under my observation, improvement of the dwelling has taken place.

CLEANSING DEPARTMENT.

During the year I have visited each district, and made myself acquainted with the sanitary condition of the differently constructed Privies and Ashpits in the Borough. These are being reduced and the water-carriage system adopted. The weekly and bi-weekly collection of shop refuse in the central portion of the town has been well sustained, and I think has given very general satisfaction. Seventy-nine loads of vegetable refuse and one hundred and fifty-six loads of abattoir garbage have been collected, no complaints having been made. Several municipal authorities convert this refuse, along with fish offal, into a dry concentrated manure. The present system of depositing ashes in small boxes, bags, tubs, &c. (which by courtesy are called ashbins) on the footpaths until emptied by our men, does not assist in making our town sanitary. I hope the time is not far distant when these receptacles will be abolished. Ash-tubs and boxes are far too frequently dangerous for the workmen to handle, owing to rusty nails and broken hoops. Portable circular galvanised-iron Ash-bins with covers are better in every way. During the year 44 Ash-bins have been provided. Every application received for the emptying of Ashpits, Cesspools, or Pails are duly recorded in a book. During the year 37 such applications were made, which were attended to. The efforts of the Health Committee in making an earnest attempt to dispose of the nightsoil in a more sanitary manner in preference to "Dumping" it on the tips has so far been satisfactory. Some of the outlying districts are scavenged by contract. As opportunities occur we are undertaking this work by our own staff. A slight saving in this department has been effected during the year. During the year a larger amount of trade refuse has been removed than in previous years.

The abolition of the conservancy system, and the adoption of water carriage system for refuse removal is rapidly becoming general throughout the country, and wherever the sewers are satisfactory your Inspector would advise that the abolition of all Closets so constructed as to retain excrementitious matter around houses be rigidly enforced, and clean Water Closets substituted, as it is

becoming more apparent that the water carriage system proper is the only alternative. During the year 50 Closets were converted and the following substituted :— 35 Water Closets, Pail Closets 20 ; 13 additional Pail Closets have been added to the list during the year. As will be seen from the foregoing, the abolition of the Pail system is not being carried out as satisfactory as one would desire, and in seven instances where 12 Water Closets have been adopted the premises were not scavenged by the Council's men, but were removed by the owners themselves or disposed of by other means. As the Health Committee finds the labour for conversion of Pail Closets in suitable places, I would strongly recommend the Committee to consider the question of adopting clean water Closets in *lieu* of waste water Closets, as these Closets are not as sanitary. It was claimed for these Closets when they were introduced that a great saving of fresh water would be effected, through being flushed with slop water. But practical experience has shewn that this is not the case. During the summer I paid special attention during my inspections, and observed that, owing to the smells arising from them a large quantity of clean water was used, the taps being often allowed to run a great length of time.

The condition of the cesspools abolished during the year was extremely unsatisfactory, and dangerous to health. The change in the districts where water closets have been provided is giving much satisfaction to the inhabitants. The abolition of the Pail Closets in the Borough, and a free supply of water to Water Closets, is a question which might with advantage be considered by the Health Committee.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF PAILS EMPTIED AND
LOADS OF RUBBISH REMOVED EACH MONTH.

Month.	Pails.	Loads Refuse Removed.	Slaughter House Refuse.	Vegetable Refuse.
January	6143	534	12	6
February	6557	578	12	6
March	7898	687	12	7
April	6338	573	15	6
May	6272	573	12	6
June	8062	685	15	7
July	6385	555	12	6
August	9641	761	15	7
September	5118	436	12	6
October	6528	559	12	7
November	8153	716	15	7
December	7028	537	12	8
Total 1904	84123	7194	156	79

Your Sanitary Inspector gratefully recognises the valuable assistance he has received from His Worship the Mayor (Alderman J. H. Maden, Chairman), and Members of the Health Committee, in his endeavours to improve the sanitary condition of the Borough.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR E. BARNES,

Assoc. Royal San. Inst., London (by exam.); Member of Incorp. Assoc.
San. Inspectors; Hons. Cert. Plumbing, etc.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

CHIEF CONSTABLE'S REPORT FOR 1904.

I have the honour to report for your information that the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops have been inspected and found in a fairly satisfactory condition.

The Common Lodging-houses are visited daily, and each proprietor fills up a form stating the name of each lodger, whence they came, and their destination, which he hands to the visiting officer each morning ; these are kept at the Police Station for reference.

There is no alteration in the number of Common Lodging-houses.

J. HARLAND,
Chief Constable

BATH SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

*To His Worship the Mayor (Chairman) and Members of
the Health and Baths' Committee of the Borough
of Bacup.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my ninth Annual Report on the work of this department.

The number of bathers who have used the various kinds of baths during the year is 34,236, an increase of 5,045 ; increase of takings over 1903, £27 10s. 8d.

All the baths have been in use during the year, with the exception of the Turkish, which were closed during the month of December, 1903.

The greatest number using the Baths during one month was in August, when there were 9,174.

The following table will show the number of bathers for the last ten years. I have no report for the year 1894:—

1895	...	...	25,961
1896	..	...	29,689
1897	...	...	33,889
1898	...	...	35,316
1899	...	...	36,996
1900	...	..	32,335
1901	...	...	34,626
1902	...	...	31,329
1903	...	...	29,191
1904	...	...	34,236

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF BATHERS IN

Description of Bath	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June
Special Turkish ... ..	...	...	...	2	2	7
2nd Turkish	29	46	43	48	60	64
Vapour	7	4	5	8	10	13
Slipper, 1st Class	61	65	84	109	161	294
Slipper, 2nd Class	145	174	196	249	322	657
Swimming, 2nd Class	175	243	292	370	520	974
Swimming, 2nd Boys	125	167	255	474	762	1494
Swimming, 1st Class ... ..	...	...	...	...	98	369
Swimming, 1st Boys ... ..	...	...	...	...	62	231
Contracts .. . . .	...	...	...	90	180	240
School Children ... ..	...	...	...	...		1480
Season Tickets ... ..	...	...	...	...	6	1
Drawers	13	19	21	60	72	249
Monthly Receipts	£ s. d. 5 19 5	7 15 8	8 19 1	12 16 0	23 3 6	43 9 6
Total per Month	542	699	875	1350	2183	5824

Scholars not paid for yet, who have attended the Baths

EACH CLASS OF BATH, AND THE FEES RECEIVED.

July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total each Class for Year	Receipts from each Class for Year
2	2	...	...	...	...	15	1 2 6
38	67	21	33	36	...	485	24 5 0
9	16	3	2	3	8	88	3 6 0
358	531	111	106	104	66	2050	34 3 4
750	1113	278	464	232	164	4553	37 18 10
956	2125	677	273	477	230	7503	62 10 6
1619	3683	1060	744	636	312	11331	47 4 3
346	722	147	159	48	...	1889	31 9 8
158	525	53	35	24	...	1088	9 1 4
240	390	50	80	20	...	1290	10 15 0
...	...	...	...	...	...	1480	3 1 8
...	...	...	...	...	...	8	2 16 0
168	523	76	71	73	17	1362	5 13 6
Bath Commission for Polo Matches and Squadron Races and Annual Gala ...							6 10 3
40 4 0	79 1 10	19 10 6	16 12 9	14 16 6	7 9 1	279 17 10	Total Receipts from each Class
4476	9174	2400	1896	1581	780	31780	279 17 10

during the past year, 2456. Increase from
1903
Total 34,236. £27 01 8

